

Memories of Mulberry Squirrel Hunting Season



Well, a very good springturkeyseasonhas ended, and today is the first day of what is now called spring squirrel season, formally known as Mulberry season in my childhood days.

I have been told by my Papaw, things change every day, we just don't pay attention to it. That is the perfect example. Hunters below the age of 60 years old probably know spring squirrel season just as that.

Growing up as a child in the coalfields of southeast Kentucky, we were ready to start our year of hunting with the opening day of Mulberry season. Those days, there was no deer or turkey to hunt. We had some of the best coon-dogs money could buy, and we still would hunt three months to tree one coon.

We would start groundhog hunting as soon as Mulberry season ended. To my memory, it lasted 14 days.

Just how many of you hunters got out of bed this morning to watch the sun come up, spend time with your thoughts, and talk to Jesus, as you

waited for the bushy tail to make their way through the trees to eat their breakfast?

Those days of growing up will forever burn in my mind. Things were so different. Shot-guns for Mulberry season were unheard of; 22 rifles were our gun of choice, using 22 short, and our single shot Mossbergs. How many 22 single shots are even in our gun cabinets these days?

We ate every squirrel we harvested, and never a better meal have I any memory of.

Yes, I am on the back-side of this journey we call life, and I am afearred that the memories I am leaving behind will soon be forgotten and new memories will replace growing up in a different world.

Enjoy your squirrel meal, I plan to put one together soon.

Happy hunting and please be safe. Enjoy the old pictures I have put in about our old days. All three of my hunting buddies have finished their journey here, and are waiting for me on the other side.



Setting up a squirrel camp.

Public Notice of Master Commissioner Sale

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
ESTILL CIRCUIT COURT
CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00198
ELECTRONICALLY FILED

CITIZENS GUARANTY BANK d/b/a CG BANK

PLAINTIFF

VS.

SAMUEL G. CROWE, et al.

DEFENDANTS

NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to and in compliance with the Judgment and Order of Sale of the Estill Circuit Court filed January 13, 2026, the Master Commissioner will offer for Sale at public outcry the following described property located in Estill County, Kentucky:

Property Address: 440 West Cedar Grove, Irvine, Kentucky 40336
PVA Parcel No: 056-20-00-017.00

Said sale shall take place on the following date and at the following location:

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.
AT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE ESTILL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
130 MAIN STREET, IRVINE, KENTUCKY

Said property shall be sold to raise the amounts hereinafter set forth, together with interest and the costs of the action, and the following terms and conditions:

1. At the time of the sale, the successful bidder shall either pay cash or make a deposit of at least ten (10%) percent of the purchase price with the balance on credit for thirty (30) days. In the event of default by the purchaser the ten percent (10%) deposit made by the purchaser shall be applied to any costs and/or expenses of this action. In the event the successful bidder elects to credit the balance, he or she will be required to post bond and furnish an acceptable surety or sureties thereon. Said bond shall be for the unpaid purchase price and bear the interest rate of eight and four-tenths percent (8.4%) per annum from the date of sale until paid. Any purchaser or purchasers shall have the privilege of paying said bond before maturity by paying the principal together with all accrued interest. The bond shall have the force and effect of a judgment in order to secure the payment of the balance of the purchase price and said bond shall constitute a prior and superior lien on the property until paid. No bond or earnest money shall be required if the Plaintiffs are the purchasers and the bid is less than their adjudged lien.

2. All delinquent property taxes shall be paid from the proceeds of the sale. The purchaser shall be required to assume and pay all ad valorem taxes assessed by the county of Estill and State of Kentucky for the current year and all subsequent years. The property shall further be sold subject to any delinquent State, County and/or city real estate taxes sold pursuant to the provisions of KRS Chapter 134 to any private purchaser during the pendency of this action.

3. The property shall otherwise be sold free and clear of any right, title, and interest of all parties to the action and of their liens and encumbrances thereon, and all existing liens recorded after the recording of the Plaintiff's Lis Pendens Notice, excepting and subject to, however, easements, restrictions, stipulations and covenants of record in the Estill County Clerk's office, any facts which an inspection and accurate survey of the property may disclose and any assessments for public improvements levied against the properties.

4. The risk of loss and the right of possession of the real estate and any improvements thereon shall pass to the purchaser upon confirmation of sale by the Estill Circuit Court.

FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPERTIES AND/OR SALES THEREOF CAN BE FOUND IN THE ESTILL CIRCUIT COURT CLERK'S OFFICE BY THE FILE NAME AND NUMBER FOR EACH SALE, THE ESTILL COUNTY PROPERTY VALUATION ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE, AND THE ESTILL COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE. PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS ARE ADVISED AND ENCOURAGED TO REVIEW ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE AT THESE LOCATIONS FOR MORE DETAILS OF THE PROPERTIES OR SALE, AS THE MASTER COMMISSIONER HAS NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND DOES NOT WARRANT TITLE TO THE PROPERTY TO BE SOLD. THE PROPERTY SALES, IF MORE THAN ONE IS SCHEDULED FOR A PARTICULAR DAY, WILL OCCUR SEQUENTIALLY AT THE APPOINTED HOUR.

This the 15th day of May, 2026.

/s/ Patrick E. O'Neill
PATRICK E. O'NEILL
MASTER COMMISSIONER
ESTILL CIRCUIT COURT

Forest Service Announces Additional Fee Free Day on Saturday, June 6th

The U.S. Forest Service has announced an additional 2026 recreation fee-free day on June 6 in celebration of National Trails Day, providing no cost use of all standard amenity recreation sites on national forests and grasslands.

National Trails Day was established by the American Hiking Society in 1993 and occurs annually on the first Saturday in June.

"For National Trails Day in 2025, Forest Service trail managers, partners, and volunteers hosted 80 events, including 54 stewardship projects, engaging with more than 3,100 volunteers who maintained 173

miles of trail," said Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz.

The Forest Service-managed trail system, at more than 165,000 miles, is the largest public trails system in the U.S. with trail-heads in nearly every state making recreation opportunities accessible to hike, bike, ATV, ride horseback, snowmobile, snowshoe, etc. In 2025, volunteers and partners accounted for more than 60 percent of all trail maintenance accomplishments, or nearly 26,000 miles.

For all 2026 fee free days on National Forest System lands, please visit www.fs.usda.gov/visit/passes-permits.